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CH: There are things that I saw on the video that I would like to discuss with you again or ask you a little more about. For example, regarding the products that you have in your store. I was wondering if you make the amulets, the oils or the candles or if they are products that are already-

S6: Everything is already made when one orders it.

CH: Ok. But, are there ever times that you have to make something?

S6: The amulets, yes. Most of the time I prepare the amulets. I usually buy the oils, the powders, the candles and all that. The powders and all that are made in factories, even though one can also make them, but you waste more time. You lose more time trying to make them yourself.

CH: Yes.

S6: It's more convenient to buy them wholesale.

CH: Perfect. How are the amulets made? Can you give me an example of how you make amulets?

S6: The amulets are made-are we taping already?

CH: Yes.

S6: Oh! Ok. If the amulets are for love or for good luck, or you want money, you get a one-dollar bill and write your birthday, your first and last names, and then you can write down your three wishes. The majority of people ask for health, money, and love. That's what they sometimes put down. Then you take rue (*ruda*), firestone (*piedra lumbre*), lodestone (*piedra iman*) and you use it with (or as) an amulet of Brother Simon (*Hermano Simon*).

CH: Is that a prepared amulet?

S6: That is a prepared amulet for good luck, and for protection of your home and for yourself. There is another amulet of rose sucker[1](*chupa rosa*), which is a little bird. This one is usually prepared for men. It's for good luck in love, so that women will pay a lot of attention to them and other similar things.

[1] Literally, *chupa rosa* means rose sucker. It might symbolically mean hummingbird.

CH: Ok. Is it a real little bird?

S6: A real little bird. I don't know if you want me to show it to you or I don't know.

CH: Maybe later if I take a look at your products. Who is the distributor of your wholesale products? Do you know the company's name?

S6: Yes, Saidel. There is another one that is called Indio Products, and another one that is called Natural Products (*Productos Naturales*). There is another one that is called Sanchez Distributors.

CH: Sanchez?

S6: There are plenty of international companies, which bring products from other countries that are not made here. They come from El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, and Chile. These are products from Central America and South America.

CH: Yes. Ok. Have you always bought your products from these companies?

S6: I almost always buy from them. If not, I travel to El Salvador and I bring products that I use. Sometimes when I go to El Salvador, I bring products from over there.

CH: Ok. Which products sell the most?

S6: The products that sell most are oils for love, candles for love, and soaps for baths. Herbs to detoxicate, too. Sometimes people come to buy herbs such as rosemary (*romero*) and rue (*ruda*). They are good for baths that release evil.

CH: Are these herbs in packets?

S6: These are in packets. They are prepared in bags for baths and last up to two or three uses. There are drinkable herbs that are good for cleaning up your system. There are some others for ejaculation. There are others that can get rid of thick blood[2]. For example, there is cinchona[3] (*quina roja*), and [???] (*te manso*). I also have one that is to cleanse the stomach. Most of these come from Central America and that is why they are already in boxes: they are already prepared. One has only to sell them to the buyer.

CH: Ok. Are there any products that sell more in some seasons than others? For example, there are some products that sell more during Christmas.

S6: During Christmas, the products that sell the most are baby Jesus figurines (*niño Dios*), mangers and nativity scenes. That's what sells most for Christmas. People have little costumes made to dress the baby Jesus figurines.

CH: These are only set up in the middle of-

[2] Unsure of whether informant says a tea for ejaculation and then a tea for thick blood (separate) or a tea to get rid of thick blood when you have an erection.
[3] Or red bark, Peruvian bark, or quina red.

S6: They are set up in the middle of Christmas. Like at a time when they want to celebrate the beliefs they brought from their land. They believe that that's when baby Jesus was born and then the three Wise Men come. People have these traditions from their own countries. When they come here, one has all these products so they don't lose those traditions that they practiced in their lands.

CH: So, it's a way of reenacting this event? Changing the baby Jesus is like remembering Him symbolically?

S6: Remembering what happened during the coming of Jesus Christ. Sometimes there's also quite a few people that take [???] (*despojo*) baths to start the new year. They come to buy the baths for cleansings (*limpias*). That is prepared with [???] (*agua florida*) and [???] (*siete machos*). It also contains holy water (*agua bendita*), and croton (*cascarilla*). You prepare a container like of this size for the baths. One takes a bath like two days before the new year. On the twenty fourth, you apply an oil called 'Blessing Oil' (*aceite de bendicion*) in the form of a cross on the forehead or on the palm of the hand. You ask for a wish, "That this be a more prosperous year." If one had problems, that they be left behind. Then, this is what these people do when they buy this product during this time.

CH: Ok. Ok. Do you sell small statues? Small figurines?

S6: Yes. I sell Saint Joseph (*San Jose*), the Virgin Mary (*la Virgen Maria*), the Child of Atocha (*el Niño de Atocha*), the Guardian Angel (*el Angel de la Guarda*), Saint Judas Tadeo (*San Judas Tadeo*), the Black Christ (*el Cristo Negro*), which is from Guatemala. There's also Joseph (*Jose*) and Mary (*Maria*), which are together. There's also Jesus Christ as a child. There are many statues of different images.

CH: Which ones sell the most?

S6: Generally, everything sells equally. There is no difference. Most people buy a lot, so they look for their own different image and everyone has their own saint that they pray to. There's a lot of commerce, but most of them sell the same.

CH: The same.

S6: Statues are not season. They sell well all yearlong.

CH: Yes. Yes. I can imagine. When people buy them, do they just buy it or do you have to give them a special blessing?

S6: This is what happens: some people want me to baptize them. I put holy water on some of them. Since they are conjured to protect the home, you take the holy water and it is done as a ritual. You light candles to conjure this saint. It serves as home protection and blessing for you. Many people like this because they believe in this as a spiritual tradition. People feel this is something that protects their home. If they just buy it like this, they say, "No. It's better for you prepare it. So, that he can see that I am devoted to him."

CH: What is the meaning of the colors in candles, clothes or plants in regards to rituals? Is there a meaning?

S6: Let's begin. For example, many use red candles for love. Yellow candles so that there will be peace in people's homes. White candles for health. Green candles for money. Consequently, in rituals with St. Simon, the candles are used differently. I use the blue one to attract abundance and money. Many people use the green candle for money. That is why I also explained that. The yellow candle is used to protect children, and is used with who I work, Brother Simon. He uses colors differently. In general people like different things. Yellow is for protection of children. Purple is to get rid of addictions such as alcoholism or drug addiction. If the mother [of the addict or alcoholic] wants them to go through treatment, she uses the purple candle. The black candle reverses effects. If I use a black candle, it is to return all the evil that they have done to me. I am getting rid of it and it is returning to them. There's also an orange one that is used when there is a lot conflict at home. It is used so that the problems will be resolved, and for there to be peace and good communication with everyone at home.

CH: Ok. So, are these the general meanings that these colors have?

S6: In general, people use green for money, white for health, red for love, green-oh, excuse me, I already told you.

CH: Yes.

S6: Purple is used to do evil. Black is for destruction. I only use it for my protection even though some people use it to do something evil to someone or for destruction.

CH: Yes. I have heard about black having reversible qualities that people use for destruction, but there are people that also use it for protection as you have told me.

S6: Yes. For example, with Brother Simon, I use it to reduce the evil that is headed for a person.

CH: Ok.

S6: For example, if you black candles, stick needles to its, put peppers (*chiles*) on it, and the name of the person that you want to do evil to, this will obviously cause them fights. If it is a marriage, they end up separated or they end up arguing. Maybe later I can demonstrate to you how that is prepared so that it can perhaps help you in a study.

CH: Ok. Ok. Is there a meaning for- there are people that say that young people shouldn't dress in dark colors, blue, or brown. Is there a meaning to the colors that people wear directly on their body?

S6: Look, in my opinion that is something different. I think that the color of your clothes has nothing to do with witchcraft or with spiritual work or anything. What I do notice is that santeros often use white clothes. White means peace, unity, and purity. They often use these colors, but only to heal. Sometimes they are wearing that. But in my point of view, I don't think what I wear has anything to do with the spiritual or my job.

CH: Ok. Ok. Altars. I see that your altars for St. Simon and for the Virgin also are really pretty. I wanted to ask you what the names of your figurines on the altar are and what each one of them mean to you.

S6: For example, on my altar I have Brother Simon. I have the Virgin of Guadalupe (*la Virgen de Guadalupe*), who is the same as the Virgin Mary (*la Virgen Maria*).

CH: Yes.

S6: She symbolized peace when you have health problems. Many people who have problems with their children come and ask the Virgin Mary (*la Virgen Maria*) since she was the mother of God. So, people really criticized her and she was humiliated because she was recently married with Joseph (*Jose*) and already pregnant. So, people who have problems with their kids come and ask for the Virgin to protect and take care of their children. In general, Brother Simon is good for love, peace, for health, healing and everything. That's what people ask for. On the other hand, I have these elephants on my altar, is a form of protection so that I will have a lot of customers and so that I will have more money. This was one of my beliefs from when I was a little child.

CH: Ok. Ok. How does one decide how to organize-? Do you have a specific order-there are people that say that the spirits tell them how to organize their altar. Is it the same for you? Or do you make your own decision?

S6: No. Brother Simon since a long time ago, generations ago, has always asked to be on an altar. I would like for you to tape it if you want. You place his glass of water, a glass of liquor, three tortillas for breakfast and for lunch, and a tobacco (*puro*) for dinner. But that was centuries ago. He also asked to be put in a corner standing on the carpet or floor because he doesn't like being in high places. But I do have it where it's safe because I fear that one of the children that come will break it. But in my home I do have it where he wants supposed to be.

CH: Ok. So in your home you have your own altar for St. Simon?

S6: Yes. It's called the high altar (*altar mayor*).

CH: The high altar (*altar mayor*). Ok.

S6: It's where I do what's left of my work. I take them to finish them at my house. I take notes of everything that I do during the day so that at night I can do that work at my house.

CH: In your own privacy. Ok. Do you recommend people to have their own altar at home?

S6: No. It's not recommended. It has to come from within them to have it. Because it's not like me telling them, "You can take this sedative for a toothache." If I recommend someone to put it up they may just do it to get on my good side or because I did them a favor. So that person won't take care of the altar as they should. It must come from your heart to be able to ask, "How do you set up an altar for Brother Simon? Or how do you

set up an altar for the virgin?" Then, I can give them ideas how to do it, but I won't recommend it.

CH: Ok. Do you want me to pause it?

S6: Two dollars (to a customer). Don't be coming inside, love.

CH: Ok. In regards, to St. Simon, do you know the story of his origin?

S6: Five. St. Simon. From my ancestors, I know he was an indigenous man that suffered a lot when he was really young. He started curing people. In Guatemala they have a temple or church where he is worshiped and all that. I don't really know the story because I wasn't even born yet when it happened. But I can give a testimony of what my parents and grandparents have told me.

CH: Yes, yes. That is fine.

S6: They-

CH: He said-

A pause in the Interview

CH: Ok. If you want to continue telling me…

S6: There is a place called Chimaltenango in Guatemala. It's in San Andres Ixtapa where his cathedral is. So this is where a lot of people from all over the world worship him, make offerings, visit him, and a religious vow (*manda*[4]) that they might want. There is a little book that tells a story about him. It says that he started curing indigenous people because St. Simon was indigenous himself. He started curing his people. He was often rejected by white people and by people that didn't speak his dialect. He was not accepted so he started giving testimony and curing by way of his miracles. People often call him brother Simon. There is another story that says that he was-excuse me. What was it? He was called by different names in his dialect. Excuse me that I forgot what he was called.

CH: Machimon?

S6: Maximon. Yes, Maximon, too. So a lot of people have had faith in him generation after generation. Today each person gives a different testimony. I don't know. I won't guarantee that all of my testimony is true. I can't guarantee that I'm correct. I am just telling you what I have seen in books or what I have been told about him by my family. But other people can give other testimonies of him because right now there are like two thousand different books/editions where people write whatever they can or want. People end up confused. "One book said this, one book said that." So, I am not guaranteeing you that what I am telling you actually happened. It's just simply my idea of what they have told me about.

[4]Manda can mean order or commandment, or vow(s) for the followers of a religious order.

CH: Yes. It's folkloric like folkloric stories that change in time.

S6: Yes. Outside on my display window I have books about St. Simon but they are all of various different authors. In one book you read this thing and in another book you read something else. So, one ends up asking, "Well, why do this say that and that other book says that? Because one person made a different comment about him making miracles and this and that." For example, St. Judas Tadeo's spirit was incarnated in him there's this because there is a candle of St. Simon that says 'St. Judas.' So, this means that he was the spirit that was incarnated in Brother Simon. So after this happened St. Simon started curing people. He left as a religious vow (*manda*) or punishment that everyone that believes in St. Simon has to take a vow (*manda*) and it is this: we have to give alms or money to people that we find on the streets. For example, if somebody on the street asks me, "I need you to give me a quarter or a dollar bill." You can't deny the dollar. I don't care whether they will use it for drugs or for alcohol. Don't let the left hand know what the right is doing. So, if I am going to give someone a contribution, I don't care what he or she does with it. All I know is that I will be fulfilling my vow (*manda*) and complying with St. Simon who has given me that order (*manda*). For example, Judas was the one that betrayed Jesus Christ. He sold him for thirty coins. Then Jesus told him that in order to find forgiveness in the everlasting life, he told that San Simon had to keep on helping people and giving them an economic stability. So St. Judas Tadeus is the same thing as Judas Iscariot, the one who sold Jesus Christ. That's why a lot of people criticize St. Simon because they think, "No, if I don't comply with him, he'll betray me." Or take away what he has given. But it all depends on the person. For example, I have worked with Brother Simon for many years. I can thank God, St. Simon, and the Virgin Mary for everything that I have and for the position that I am in. But I never break any of the promises I make to him. If I make a promise and do a job in the name of St. Simon, "I want you to help me so this job will turn out right. I promise to bring you a bouquet of flowers. I promise to bring you a bottle of liquor. I promise to make you a better altar than the other one." I have to do it when I see that the job that I asked for is done. I have to comply to him also with whatever he wants. All that is a very long story and I don't think that I could finish giving you an explanation in perhaps three or four months.

CH: Yes. But it's understandable. You need to give, to receive.

S6: So, that's like a vow (*manda*) that you have to cooperate for one's financial blessings. I have had some experiences. Look, sometimes all that I have is five or ten dollars. A hungry person might perhaps ask me, "Ma'am, will you please give me a dollar?" And me, because I have ten dollars, I won't tell her, "Listen. I don't have anything." I give it to them, but look, at four in the afternoon, I have three times that. So, he multiplies it faster. But what if I told the person, "You know what, I don't have anything." And I know that I have ten dollars. It's better that I keep five dollars, and I help feed another person because sooner or later I know that I'll have my reward.

CH: Ok. Ok. So, oh, you already told me. Do you know about any rituals or ceremonies for St. Simon?

S6: Yes. For example, he likes rituals with white candles for when someone wants peace in their home. On October 28, he likes having a celebration for his birthday, on the day of his saint. You celebrate his birthday by lighting candles, cooking food, and making

parties for him. On that day we cook all kinds of meals and all kinds of alcoholic drinks. You sing, and you dance. At midnight his spirit descends. For example, he descends to cure, to give advice and if you make a petition it is quickly realized during those rituals, especially on the 28th of October. When one is celebrating his birthday, from the 27th (when I begin the celebrations for him) until the 31st, it lasts a week. I don't do any healing on these days, and if I do any healings at my botanica, I do them for free. I don't charge anything because on that day I am devoted to St. Simon to helping anyone that comes. On those days, I heal, read cards, and all that for the believers of St. Simon. Whoever comes for a cleaning, on that day will get it for free. There is no charge. They are very beautiful rituals.

CH: Let me stop for a moment. To-

Tape Pauses Here

Tape Resumes Here

CH: …the battery. If the camera moves, then the battery shuts off. It's ok. It's on already. I wanted to keep asking you if I could know about the foods or flowers-oh, you already told me about the foods, right?

S6: Mh-h.

CH: Are there any flowers or other things that St. Simon prefers?

S6: What he really likes is red roses or carnations. Carnations really fascinate him. Carnations are often flowers that you give to men, and roses are for women. He likes red carnations, purple carnations, or white carnations. It depends on the vow (*manda*) that you have with him and that's what you buy him. But if you give him roses he also likes them. He doesn't reject them.

CH: I have noticed that there are a lot of altars for St. Simon that are surrounded by roses. So, that's why I thought of asking. Are there any candles that you most commonly offer to him? What would be the candles that you offer most?

S6: The most common ones are the white ones and the yellow ones. They light up the yellow ones for the protection of children and the white ones for us as adults. Young women almost always light up the red ones because they often want love.

CH: Ok. I've seen rainbow candles. Are they useful for everything?

S6: Those have seven colors. They are for love, health, peace, protection, to get rid of the evil, and to get rid of enemies. It has seven colors because it's like the seven days of the week. A lot of people like these because they use them for general use and they don't have to light as many candles. To light a candle for each, they have to light different candles. Only by lighting this one you will have what you need.

CH: Ok. I was wondering if you could talk about the Virgin of Guadalupe. I wanted to see if you could tell me a little about her history-

S6: I couldn't tell you anything about her because I mostly work with Brother Simon. I know they make celebrations for her on December 12, that she appeared in Mexico, and that she was discovered by Juan Diego, an indian. I couldn't give you a good explanation because all that I've heard is another tale by the Mexican people.

CH: Ok. That's true. I know about that, too. Do you know if she prefers certain candles or certain flowers?

S6: Because of my clients I know that they often light white candles for her. They almost never light her any other color candles. I see that they only light white candles for the Virgin of Guadalupe. I think that they usually light this candle for protection or gratitude.

CH: Is there a specific flower or food that people most often offer to her?

S6: I usually see that people offer her apples and flowers of all kinds. Alls kind of flowers.

CH: All kinds.

S6: They either offer her natural and sometimes artificial flowers are used to decorate her altar. She is pleased by everything. Roses and everything.

CH: Ok. When did you start having trusting in the Virgin of Guadalupe? Have you always believed? Since your childhood?

S6: For me the Virgin of Guadalupe is like a symbol of the mother of all of us. But for me, she is like the Virgin Mary herself. Whenever I make a prayer I always say "In the name of the most powerful God, the Virgin Mary and St. Simon." So I always mention the three of them. I've done that for a long time. To me, the Virgin of Guadalupe signifies the Virgin Mary (*la Virgen Maria*).

CH: The Virgin Mary.

S6: Yes. She's the mother of God. The Virgin has different names in different countries. For example, in El Salvador it's called the [???] (*laVirgin del Carmen*). It's different in other places. In Cuba, [???] (*la Caridad del Cobre*). It's always the same Virgin Mary, but in each country they have different images, different rituals and different things that they do.

CH: It all depends on the community. Ok. I wanted to ask you a little more about the works (*trabajos*) of love, money, work, and family. But all with due time, so what we can do now-

S6: Regarding all of those things that you want to know, I would like to explain it to you using examples or with a demonstration so you can see how it's done. Sometimes I could be telling you this and you might say, "Well, maybe it's true and maybe it's all lies. She could be telling me stuff from her imagination." However, if I give you an example of how a work (*trabajo*) is done. I would like that so that later on you would learn a little or give a true testimony when they ask you.

CH: Ok. For the next time, I think that we could say that set that one up for love. So, I'd be able to ask you-

S6: I can prepare one called for [???] (*amarres*) and one used for sweetening (*endulzamiento*). One to used keep someone away (*retirar*). One used for separations (*separaciones*). I want to give you an example for everything that you so that you can give a better testimony.

CH: Ok. Ok. So, if you want we can finish here and I can take a few pictures of the room. We're set for next time to have examples for love, money and the most that we can do.

S6: If you want to right now I can give you small examples of some of these things. Maybe not everything, but a few things.

CH: Ok.

S6: For example, the one that unites two people. I can give you an example of that right now. For example, this glass that's right here. I'm going to give you this example right now and then I'm going to get something from outside.

CH: Ok.

S6: This is for these people. This is the picture of the two people. It has holy water (*agua bendita*), honey of love (*miel de amor*), bee's honey (*miel de abeja*), and here are some candles. The first one is white. The next one is red. The other one is purple and the last one also has to be red. I'm not done. This right here symbolizes a fastening of love (*amarre de amor*). This is for a fastening of love (*amarre de amor*). You can see from up here the red string (or ribbons). Maybe you can get in the picture.

CH: Yes. I can see it fine. Let me see.

S6: This is for a fastening (*amarre*) for when someone wants to get married. That's there. This is a different preparation. Look. You can see that here are the two pictures. You can see that the pictures are here. Look. These are perfumes of love, of John Conqueror (*Juan Conquistador*), of domination (*dominación*), and are also used to make a fastening (*amarre*). This is for when they are boyfriends. The one with the glass are for marriages. What this means on this one, is that the couple has not had sex and that she is only in love with the person and wants him to come to her. It's to attract that person. This glass here is for a marriage that has problems at home.

CH: When they're already married and need-

S6: They are married, but are thinking of getting a separation. Right now I am going to demonstrate this to you. If you want, you can turn it off for a moment.

Recorder Pauses

Recorder Resumes

S6: -of colors, which are the seven colors. Inside of the coconut (*coco*), there's a picture of the person. This is for a vigil, for a healing, or for a spell that has gone wrong. This is what this healing with the coconut is called: "cut damage with the coconut" (*corta daño abase del coco*) or [???] (*cortaflido*). Now, let's move on to what's next. This [something inaudible] is the symbol of the woman. This is the man. You place them face-to-face. You tie them with this red string. This is a marriage union. You tie both of them like this. The first thing that you do is to remove the piece of plastic. You're going to write the name of the person seven times going down. Then you are going to write what you want, for them to love you, for them to like you, for them to look for you, and then you are going to add the date of birth. Then, when the names of the two are written, you are going to unite them. Then, you tie them. The picture of the person and of the man are going in the middle. Then place it tied like this with this string. You can say, "This is how I tie these two dolls. I'm going to tie this guy with this girl so that they'll love each other and so they'll never break apart, in the name of God, and of St. Simon. What God unites, man cannot separate because I am not the one who is uniting these two dolls, these two people. St. Simon or the Spirit of God is uniting them. This work (*trabajo*) is not an evil work. To harm someone-how do you say? This is for them to love each other. Like sometimes they have children and perhaps the man wants to be with another woman, it's when a person wants these works to get done. But it's not causing any damage, like for him to die or for him to be dumb. No. That's for them to love each other. There are other works to keep someone dumb. Those are stronger works that are for someone to take advantage of another. I think that is wrong. It is abusing the other person because if I don't want any one to do that to me, then I shouldn't do it to anyone. So after this ritual is over, you wrap it with the person's underwear. For example, if the husband comes here, you wrap it with the wife's clothes. You tie and you put it under the mattress or if make an opening in the mattress. This work can last for a long time. The day a person doesn't want it anymore, they can just take it apart.

Phone Rings

CH: So what can happen when you take it apart?

S6: They split up. Immediately. Each person on their own path. The pretty magic is over. As a case, if a person discovers it and finds it, it's over. It's like fast magic.

CH: They have removed it.

S6: They removed all of it. It ends. I don't know. I gave you a really quick explanation but sometimes the process can be really long.

CH: No, that's fine. I think you were short but very clear.

S6: Now, this other candle is called seven [???] (*siete*-***Audio Interference***).

Interview Continues

S6: -the virgin of undoing knots (*la virgen de desata nudos*). I don't know if you have heard of her. She's from Venezuela. You can solve all types of problems. You can solve court problems, you can get someone out of jail, and you can also recover from an illness

if you beseech the Virgin of the Seven Knots (*la Virgen de los Siete Nudos*), who is used a lot by the Venezuelans. If not this candle can also be used to tie (amarrar) or bring love. For example, if I am in love with such a person, I come and write the name of that person on each knot, a wish, the name of the person and their birth date. Then when I have everything ready I come and do this. I tie up the knot and say, "With this knot I am tying you so that you can like me and love me". Then with the second knot I say, "I'm making this so that you will be with me. That you won't have peace or tranquility anywhere you go. You will only have eyes for me," and you will say your name. The third knot symbolizes the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. "So, that you'll like me, love me and that you'd never go back anywhere or to anyone from the past. The fourth one is so that you will come to me. The fifth symbolizes your five senses. The fifth one symbolizes the five senses that I want to captivate so that they will only think of me." Girl, are you getting bored with this?

CH: No, not at all. It's very interesting. I had never seen that candle before.

S6: Ok. "The fifth one is to take over your five senses. The sixth one is so you'll think of me. The seventh one symbolizes that you'll be with me the seven days of the week, whether you like it or not. In the name of God, St. Simon and the Virgin Mary you are going to be with me. I swear to God and even to the Holy Cross that you are going to be after me as the living go after the cross and the dead go after the light. In this moment I take over your five senses so that you'll like me, love me and will be with me. Whether you like it or not, you are going to be faithful to me as a result of the great power, right now and always. On the contrary, you are not going to think about any other person except myself and that's me," and then you say your name. After this, you tie it up and you can bury it in a pot in your house. Or you can also tie it up and put it in a red bag and hang it up on the entrance of your house or in a hidden place where the person that you are doing it to won't see it. Because if not you are going to be in problems. So one has to be very careful. These are works of love. This is white magic. All of the works that I am demonstrating to you are white magic. This is to attract love, and to be happy. You know that there are a lot of people who don't have luck in love and they say, "Oh, ma'am, what can I do for a man to pay attention to me? It's very simple. You can light a candle. There's a candle that you can prepare for a man. You prepare it with cinnamon (*canela*), sugar (*azucar*) and honey (*miel*). It's for attraction. If not it can also be used the other way around and a man can use it. If you are definitely really unlucky with love, you can take seven red roses, seven candles-one red, one white and one green. You make a ritual. First you boil the cinnamon (*canela*) with the roses. You need three tablespoons (*cucharadas*) of sugar (*azucar*) and three tablespoons (*cucharadas*) of cinnamon (*canela*). During this time, you let it boil with the roses. Then when that's done boiling, you go to the bathroom and you let this mixture go down your body starting from the head. You ask that this bring you love, that the honey will sweeten you, that the cinnamon will give you the aroma of love, and that the roses will make you a radiant and attractive woman. From there on you light the candles and put your name on each one of the candles, placing the candles in the form of a triangle on a pan (*paila*). Then you write your name twenty-one times on a piece of paper along with a wish. You set the candles in the form of a triangle on the pan and let that burn. You quickly get results. After that, it will be raining men. They are after you and are telling you, "Oh, momma, you are so good. Let me go with you. Let me take you to dinner." Then they say, " Look at me. That had an effect on me." It's a quick recipe.

CH: Easy.

S6: Yes. These are things that I used to do ever since I was very young. I used to see my grandma do it in El Salvador. There were girls that used to come and say, "Ma'am, my man left me. What do I do? He asked me for the 'test' and now he doesn't want anything to do with me." My grandmother would get something like a rag doll. She would get it, tie it up and write his name. She would tell the girl, "Put it in your pillow and he'll be back in three days." In three days the man was already back with her. These are things that are not really witchcraft. It is a sort of prescription or magic that one can do quickly, but that does not mean that it is witchcraft. Many people mistake it as witchcraft. It's more like an attraction to bring the person back.

CH: Ok.

S6: It's very quick. Right now, I'm going to bring you a heart, so if you want you can turn it off for little while. This is to tie someone's heart. As you can see, this is a heart.

CH: A heart. You can see it very well.

S6: Yes, it's a heart. These strings open up like this. You open up these strings. You open up these strings like this and you cut a person's hair. Excuse me, you cut their hair and you tie the hair like this. You tie the hair like this over here. Then, you take this needle and if you want someone to fall in love with you, you say-and obviously, you write the person's name. You write it and then you pierce with the needle. Then you say, "As I pierce a needle in this heart I will pierce your heart so that you can notice me, or so that you'll like me. You'll love me. You'll desire me sexually. You'll look for me." Then you put this cross on it and you tie it up with the same string. You usually use red colors for issues of love. You tie it like this. And remember that this has got the person's hair.

CH: Yes.

S6: You tie it like this. You can add to this heart cinnamon (*canela*), sugar (*azucar*) and three white rose petals. The white roses symbolize the fact that you are not harming the person and that this is white magic. You add the white rose petals like this and then you can add a piece of your underwear. This work can be placed in an amulet in a red pouch. The person that you do this to becomes very caring, sweet and their heart belongs to you. That heart belongs to you because that work has a job (*trabajo*) done on them. Then you repeat this, "As Jesus Christ was crucified on the cross, I am now crucifying you Humberto Sanchez," or whatever his name his. "Humberto Sanchez I am crucifying you and this will be the cross that you carry. As Jesus Christ was crucified, I will crucify you so that you will like me, love me, and that your heart will belong to me." You can also pray, "Jesus Christ, the one that defeats everything, I want you to defeat that person so that he can love me and so he can be with me." After nine days, you stay awake with a few red candles. After nine days, one can carry a red bag and your holy work for love is done. This one is if you want the person to have bad luck and a lot of people ask for this one. I am also giving you another version. This work is for people who want someone to have bad luck because they've been laughed at. A lot of people come to be healed from works of black magic. They make this heart so that the person will be destroyed or so that

they'll have bad luck. They insert needles all around this and they say "I swear that you will have bad luck for having hurt my feelings." People that have been hurt say this. "For having laughed at my feelings, I will destroy you. I will pierce your heart so that it has a whole in it and you can't see any woman." Only bad people make this kind of work. I don't do it, but I do know how it's done.

CH: How it's done. Uh-huh.

S6: So you have to insert nine needles right here like this. Then you cut this section with a virgin knife. You cut it like this and you place a piece of pork or beef in it. That person will be like the heart and not even the best doctor can cure him. Maybe only a curandero can heal him. They open it up with a virgin knife and place a piece of pork or beef. Then it is sealed with a piece of parchment and then it is buried in a cemetery. This person will be destroyed. This is a really evil work because you use this black thread and the piece of pork. The person starts getting full of maggots (*gusanos*[5]) and the person sometimes vomits maggots. They urinate maggots. I have previously seen many of these cases. It is a destructive work that many people come here to be cured of this kind of damage that has been done to them. There are also candles for the female's body part and for the male's body part. You must also be conscious that these works are very evil, but it's what people practice the most. The recipes that I have given you are practiced less than this. People probably practice evil more by sixty percent.

CH: Wow.

S6: Usually the spiteful woman or the spiteful man, such as if the man cheated on the woman and the woman is angry, destroy even if they later regret it. As you can see that there are many people that do evil thing. They charge up to two thousand and three thousand dollars. If they charge that, it's because they'll pay it into order to inflict harm. They don't realize they are sending their own souls to hell, too.

CH: Ok.

S6: This is it for today and I hope that maybe another day we can talk about something else. The heart issue will remain pending since there are more things that I can tell you so that you can practice and see how things go.

CH: Ok. Perfect. Thank you.

End of First Interview

Beginning of Second Interview

CH: So let's start with examples of love issues.

S6: Let's start with the heart because I think that I didn't explain it that well.

[5] A gusano can either be a worm or a maggot. This decay probably involves maggots.

CH: Ok. Perfect. I want to pay close attention this time. Whenever you're ready.

S6: Ok. Now.

CH: Ok.

S6: Ok. If you can remember last time, I explained to you how you could get someone to love you with this red heart.

CH: Yes.

S6: If you can remember. Perhaps it didn't come out well on the taping, so I'll give another explanation now. This is where you write the name of the person either with a pencil or with a needle. When you have this, then you tie it with this red string. You tie it from here to here. This is what symbolizes a fastening (*amarre*)**.** Then you pierce a needle in the middle, which symbolizes how you want to pierce the person's heart like in a love spell. Sometimes it is very helpful to use one's hair because it has a sort of magnet. You can pull it from it from here and you use the hairs from your head to tie them here. You tie them back over here. I'm going to give you a longer explanation. You can even use a person's photograph if the person is too difficult and it won't work. For example, this piece of paper is the picture. You fold the person's picture like this.

CH: Ok.

S6: You put it like this. You pierce with the needle. You pierce with the needle. You pierce here and you repeat these words, "As I pierce with this needle, I will pierce the heart of such and such a person. His heart and mind will not have peace or tranquility with any other person except with me. In the name of the great power and St. Simon, I fasten this heart of such a person so that he'll like me, love me and be with me. With this knot, I fasten you. With this one, I adjust you. With this one, I make you yield so that you'll be mine for all of life. This spell is to dominate you and make you mine, now and forever. We prayed to the spirit of good luck, and to St. Simon. Help me consecrate this work so that such a person will like me, will love me, and will be with me." You can do this work. Sometimes anyone can do it, but it is more convenient if you have it done by someone who does spiritual works or who knows about these things. If a person does it only to do it, sometimes it doesn't work out and the little faith that a person has is lost. I will specify clearly that the last knots be done here on the heart. They are done here so that the person is tied to you. If you can remember that I told you that your hair can be tied on these ends, but since I don't have the hairs and I can't use my own.

CH: True.

S6: I will just give you an example. They are tied here like this. They are fixed back here so that they are united here on this. So that it will be united. This love spell can for example, last from three to seven years. After that it can be renewed because, "not everything lasts forever", as the saying goes. This is spiritual. If tomorrow, things are going bad, the person can take this apart to undo the work and it's all over. Now everlasting work has no going back. It's finished and even if they can't stand each other, they are together and are bitter together because that's what they wanted. Now these love

spells, if one is not happy with the person tomorrow, you can take it apart, add holy water (*agua bendita*), church incense (*incensio de iglesia*), and burn it. The holy work is over. All of the pretty magic is gone and everything that I did is gone.

CH: And no one is longer affected?

S6: No one has any more problems. Also, another example: if another person finds this heart where it's buried or something, again, the magic is over. It's over without undoing it or anything. It seems like a joke, but it's the art of magic. If this is left like this, and another person finds, again, with only seeing it, the magnet or image used to dominate the person is gone. Is everything that I told you good enough so we can move on?

CH: I think so. It's good.

S6: Let's move on to the man's penis. As you can see, this male's penis is used a lot when men are unfaithful or the person has two or three women. Most men are like that. It makes me laugh. There is no man that is not unfaithful. All of them at one point have one, two or three women. Well, one day, he'll find someone just like himself (*arma de su zapato*[6]). They say, "You aren't going to play with me, little one. Now you are on my territory." They come and take the man's penis. First they caress it and tell nice things to it. Then they say, "This candle is not a candle. It's the body and soul of such a person." Or let's say, "Of George. This candle is the body and soul of George Martinez. I want this organ to symbolize this penis to symbolize such a person's penis." Then one comes and says, "I order you to be aroused by me. I order you to love me. I order that you be mine. I order that this penis be mine. That you can't be with any other person, and you can only think of me. If one day you are with someone else, your penis won't be able to have an erection with that other person." You can clean your legs or here and there, but not your face. If you clean your face with something like this, you are the one who will be dominated. Instead of causing effect on the other person, it happens to you.

CH: To yourself.

S6: You are the dominated one. Well, after that ritual, you stand it like this. Then you take a needle or a pencil and write the name of the person twenty one times over this member. I don't think that I've told you about this work before.

CH: No, not this one.

S6: Ok. Write it twenty one times. You write the first name, last name and the date of birth of the person downward. You never write it from here upward. You always write from where the wick (*pabilo*) is downward. You write the twenty one times around it. After you are done with the twenty first time, as an example, you can write: My powerful St. Simon, I am doing this fastening (*amarre*) in your name, in the name of the Father and of the Virgin Mary. This work that I am doing is for my children's home, my health, and for my husband's home because I don't want him to be with someone else. I want us to be happy. I ask for your forgiveness for doing this kind of work, St. Simon, but you that I am not really harming him. I am simply doing it to enable myself to live in peace in my

[6] A Mexican idiom.

home, and so there won't be any problems, physical abuse or arguments." This is asked by the person to demonstrate to the spirit that they do not mean harm to the person. They are simply fighting for something that belongs them and for happiness. Many people come to get this work done here, but they don't do it for themselves. Perhaps she does it because they have three or four children, she is losing a husband and he is running around everywhere. Then, it's is just another way of being happy and looking for happiness. This is not a sin because you are not harming anyone. You are simply nurturing, like helping a plant. One can say, "If there's a plant that is drying up, if you don't water it, it will dry up faster."

CH: It dries up faster.

S6: But if you start pouring water and more water into it, you will eventually have a very lively green plant. That is how love is. You should help it grow. Love is caring and gentleness. If one does this, it's like you are fighting to get the love of that person. But if one says, "If he doesn't want to, let him go with the other one." Or afterwards when it's over and they say, "Now I'm going to do something so his thing won't go up and it'll rot." That's harm.

CH: That is. Yes. Ok.

S6: That is going against the other person's rights. She can't do something evil to another person because then she wouldn't want that done to her. Ok. After that, you make a knot and say, "With this know, I fasten (amarro) you, Pedro/Pablo, so that you'll love me, you'll be with me and your member will always be erect with me. I tie you with this knot, so that you'll be united with me." Now again, the other one, the second, then the third one like we did with the first one, then the fourth one, the fifth one, and the last one is the seventh one. This symbolizes the seven days of the week, so that the man will be peaceful and tranquil. Then after the seven knots, you leave it like this. Then this is buried in a pot. You buy a pot at Vons or wherever you can find a pot. You take the pot and this member with the knots like this, is tied like this, head down so that he'll be with you. It'll be a mistake if you place it like this in the pot. He'll go all over the place. But if you place it like this, the member tied like this, this is like a fastening (amarre) to have satisfaction when you make love and to have a lot of peace and tranquility. When the relationship is dying because there is not enough excitement, or the man does not love you because perhaps you are a little fat, it won't matter with this. If you're fat, thin, ugly, it won't matter. With only seeing you, "Ay, you look so good, little momma." He begins to feel desire and begins to touch this and that. That's what this is for: to revive the love. So that there'll be a lot of excitement, love and everything that you want. That's what's good because maybe the relationship is dying because there's not enough sex or love. Well, what do you think about that?

CH: So this is just help?

S6: Yes, it's just help to make love. You are not forcing anyone to be with you. This is not forcing anyone. That is why you write here about asking help and forgiveness from St. Simon because you are fighting for your home. The ingredients from the recipe that I am giving you are to help love grow, to bring more happiness to a relationship and so the love won't die. Sometimes love dies after the woman has the first or second child. The

man is not attracted to the woman because she gained weight or the charisma she had in the beginning was gone because perhaps she doesn't get dressed up and is taking care of the child. This helps so that the love will be alive, happy, boiling like hot water that never cools off. But it must be buried where I told you: in the pot.

CH: Yes.

S6: It will be a mistake. Nothing will work.

CH: Ok.

S6: There's another example. I'm going to give you another example with the same red thing.

CH: Ok.

S6: The same red thing, but we're going to use it as if it was a black penis.

CH: Black. Ok.

S6: The person goes and writes something here. They nail the twenty one needles that we talked about. They say, "I will insert these needles to destroy you, whatever-his-name, so that your penis will not be erect with anyone and so that it will rot." Then they say these very bad words. I don't know if they can be recorded.

CH: Yes, they can.

S6: They say, " You damn dog, I swear to God and even to the Holy Cross, that your penis will never be erect again. Because of all of the harm that you caused me I will destroy you, your health and I will cause your penis to become like these needles, destructive. Every needle at every minute will penetrate your penis to destroy, such a person's name." I'm not going to insert all of the twenty one needles so it won't be full.

CH: Yes, I know.

S6: Afterwards, you get a black thread and you tie it here on this. You make a strong knot right on the cap (gorrito) and the other one on the trunk (tronco). These two knots are similar to two knots you make on your finger. It turns purple. This has already been cursed with the person's name. Taking a needle and making a knot, you open this up with a knife. You open this up like this. You take out the candle like [???] (lesterina). You take out the [???] (lesterina). Then you take a piece of pork, a piece of pork that is fat and greasy, and place it in here. Then you let if all in another black candle like this one and then you seal it here. That meat will rot in three days. On the third day, that person feels pain in his penis and his testicles. In twenty-one days, that person has that rotten and goes to the hospital. They tell him, "No, maybe you have cancer. No, you've got an infection." They give him antibiotics and other recipes, but he isn't cured because the work is witchcraft. Unfortunately, not any doctor can cure him. Then he has to be what-what do they call it when they cut it? Or is it amputation?

CH: Yes, they castrate him.

S6: They cut it, but that keeps eating him away. In a few words, he has to look for a person that is a curandera and who knows about this damage. Pork is the most harmful meat that there is and is sometimes the one that we eat the most since we like carnitas and all that. But it is the most harmful that there is and is often used to cause damage.

CH: Why is pork so harmful?

S6: Because pork has many parasites. If you have seen the pork when it is boiled, if you are allergic to it and start eating it or start touching it, it will give you itch. This is because the microbes or a disease called mange[7] (sarna) from the pig's tongue is transmittable. It can be transmitted to people. So, if you eat pork, sometimes you can get stomachaches or diarrhea. Pork has bad effects on a lot of people. It just means that it is harmful, but sometimes we still eat it. Doctors tell us to cook it very well.

CH: Very well.

S6: The meat must be well cooked so that they die.

CH: Ok.

S6: Now, I think that the explanation was enough or do you want me to give a more detailed one?

CH: No, it was very good.

S6: I explained how the pork is placed here to destroy. This is harm.

CH: Yes.

S6: But we did say that it was black, right? It wasn't red.

CH: It has to be black to cause harm.

S6: It has to be a black penis.

CH: So when a person goes to a curandero or curandera's place, and you tell them, "I have such and such damage," what do you need to do to know what kind of harm has been done to them?

S6: A very good question. Some people come here and tell me. Sometimes the person is open and is not shy. Many people are shy going to the doctor or to me when it comes to venereal diseases. When it's very serious, they forget about being embarrassed. "Look, ma'am, I think that I have this and that. Is it possible if someone can examine me? Or I can tell you what's wrong." They tell me, "I have this and that. I have something on this part of my body. I already went to the doctor. They gave me antibiotics and this how it

[7] Sarna can either be mange or scabies.

went." Then I go and examine them. The exam shows what it really is. Just by seeing I can recognize what problem the person has. On the other hand, one knows well. When there are some people that come from the country, maybe they don't trust doctors and prefer to come to me. Perhaps that person has had sex with someone who had a disease and were infected. Then I send them immediately to a doctor. I tell them, "Look, what's wrong with you is that you are [???] (*matado*), you've got a venereal disease, you've got [???] (*caballito*), you've got [???] (*chanclo*) and you've got get an injection. Go to a doctor so that he can cure you." But the person that has the other disease, must be dealt with quickly because it's like water that is boiling. Even if that person applied all of the medicine in the world, he wouldn't be cured. I'll explain to you what is needed when a person comes in like that.

CH: Ok.

S6: You take a beefsteak (*bistek de res*). Beef is the exact opposite, right? A beefsteak. You cover the person's really infected part. In that time, that body part starts to boil as if it was cooking. You add cascarilla (*cascarilla*) to that part and salt, table salt. You add it to the meat and the cascarilla (*cascarilla*). This is the meat fillet or the steak. you add the salt and the cascarilla. The salt gets rid of the evil and is also useful for causing harm, but it depends on how it is used.

CH: Yes.

S6: The cascarilla (*cascarilla*) gets rid of all of the evil. After the beefsteak is placed on the person, one has to place plants around them. There is a plant called St. Mary (*Santa Maria*). There is another plant that is very well know-

End of Side A

Beginning of Side B

S6: -on the contrary, right? A beefsteak is used the cover the person's body part that is very infected. In that time, that part starts to boil as if it was cooking. You place cascarilla and salt on that part. Salt. Edible salt. You place it on top of the meat and the cascarilla. This is the meat fillet or the steak, and you add the salt and cascarilla. The salt gets rid of what is wrong and is also useful for causing harm, but it depends on how it is used.

CH: Yes.

S6: So, the cascarilla (*cascarilla*) gets rid of what is wrong. After the beefsteak is placed on the person, one has to place plants like one called Saint Mary (*Santa Maria*). There is another one that is commonly known around here as [???] (*pirul*).

CH: [???] (*pirul*), yes.

S6: If not, you can make a mixture with [???] (*pirul*) with rosemary (*romero*) and you liquefy it. You [???] (*maduna*) the person's entire infected area. You [???] (*se maduna*). After twenty-one days, the person begins healing. He won't heal immediately, but the

healing begins. The first step is to put together the beefsteak (*bistek*) with salt (*sal*) and cascarilla (*cascarilla*).

CH: Cascarilla (*cascarilla*).

S6: Then you begin to put together dough (*masa*) made out of [???] (*pirul*) with liquefied cactus (*nopal*). Or you can use the leaf called St. Mary (*hoja de Santa Maria*). It's found a lot in the rivers of El Salvador. It's a wide leaf that is sometimes used to wrap cheese (*queso*).

CH: Oh, yes.

S6: It almost looks like [???] (*hoja de huerto*), but it is has another name that's St. Mary (*Santa Maria*). Those leaves are arranged like this. The person will cure quickly, but with patience, too. The miracle can't de done overnight.

CH: Yes.

S6: Everything that is rotten in the meat is released. Oh, I didn't finish explaining. Excuse me. You add the salt to the meat, so that the rotting maggots inside of the meat that is rotting in the person's member come out. Since they are looking for something to eat-

CH: They enter the meat.

S6: You put meat. I'm sorry that I didn't give you that explanation.

CH: There's no problem.

S6: That is the why you put the meat. When the maggots come out, the salt calls them out. So the meat and the blood of the other blood that is there calls them out and they leave the area alone. The [???] (*pirul*) with the rosemary (*romero*) that I told you to apply serves to heal then. Or to form the scar.

CH: How much [???] (pirIul) and how much of everything-

S6: You can use-I don't know if you'll understand me-a handful like this.

CH: A handful like this?

S6: A handful like this. A handful like this. A [???] (*rollito*) of rosemary (*romero*). Then it's liquefied. You begin to apply it three times a day.

CH: And the leaf? The St. Mary?

S6: You use one whole St. Mary leaf. That is not liquefied. You apply it as if covering the cheese.

CH: Over.

S6: Just like this.

CH: How much cactus (*nopal*)?

S6: The cactus (*nopal*)?

CH: Oh, no, excuse me. Excuse me.

S6: The cactus! I didn't say cactus. No. That's to cure. The mixture with [?] (*pirul*) with rosemary (*romero*) can applied three times a day. That leaf is only used at night.

CH: Ok.

S6: At night, from six to eight in the afternoon, the person puts it on so that they can go to sleep and to get rid of the pain.

CH: Ok.

S6: The leaf works because it has some kind of anesthesia. If you chew it like this, your tongue later feels like numb. Then that is what it's for: to give to the person. Since the area has been recently damaged, that area will be numb so that the person can go to sleep. These are my grandma's secrets. She always uses plants and herbs that are also useful to cure damage from witchcraft.

CH: You said that the St. Mary leaf was found in El Salvador.

S6: On the edges of rivers in El Salvador.

CH: Is it found here?

S6: Here? No. It is really hard to find it. If you can bring it over here, it is dry. It doesn't have the same effects if it is dry. It has to be fresh to calm the pain. On the other hand, I remember that in El Salvador, my great-grandmother would send me to bring it. Excuse me, I was going to say buy it. I would lower myself into the open street sewers and rivers and would cut it. I would bring it.

CH: Cut it.

S6: Sometimes out of curiosity, I would chew it with my teeth. It would kind of numb my tongue. I don't know why it numbs it. It must be like anesthesia.

CH: Yes, it must be like anesthesia. So the person that is affected like that in this country, doesn't have a way of healing himself because if you don't have that leaf-?

S6: Most of the times it sent correctly by people who have legal papers. These can travel and bring it alive. They bring it packaged. For example, if I were the one that needed it, and couldn't go, I would send someone that could travel to my land and would bring it

back. He is going to go like the saying says, "To go to work and not play."[8] Not to stay. Then what they bring is used. But these works are not too common anyway. Only three or four of them happen every year. They are not very frequent because not a lot of people are willing to give their soul to the devil just to harm someone else, which is what is always given up or something in exchange to do something evil.

CH: Ok. Ok. If you want, we can move on to the next one.

S6: Ok. This is the next one. I think that we did do this one last time.

CH: The vagina. Yes, but I think that is one of the ones that didn't come out clearly. I don't know.

S6: Well, we can repeat this one. I hope that I can give a longer and better explanation so that your taping comes out better.

CH: Ok. There's no problem.

S6: This is for love. I think that we did do this the last time because I remember speaking about jealous men who want to keep their women.

CH: Yes, and they insert-

S6: Needles.

CH: Ok.

S6: I think that we did this one already.

CH: Yes. If you want, you can repeat it again since we started talking about it.

S6: Well, I'm going to make it longer because perhaps that day we didn't have-how do you say?

CH: Enough explaining.

S6: -explanation because we were short on time.

CH: Yes.

S6: This is not for love. That's the red one. Don't forget that when it is a black candle in the shape of a vagina, which symbolizes the vagina of the woman, it is to do harm or evil. Many jealous men like to keep their women secure by tying them here like this. They keep them tied. They tie here and insert one needle on each side. For example, they place three needles here where the symbolical vaginal lips are. Then you tie this with a red thread like this. You tie it this way on this. Then you say, "With this I am fastening (*amarro*) you, restraining you and keeping you, so that you can only be mine. So you

[8] Al mandado y no al retozo.

won't have sexual intercourse with anyone else, only with me. You'll only be aroused with me." Very jealous men are the ones that do these works so that they can have that person under their control. The people that do these works are very insecure men that think that by allowing their wives to walk down the corner, that they will find lovers or a new man. I don't know if you want to see me insert these needles so that you can see a little.

CH: Ok.

S6: You insert three right here. Then you say, "I am piercing you with this pin so that you can only feel pleasure with me. You won't be able to have sex with any other men or with any another person, except only with me. These pins will hurt you on the day that a man intends to insert his organ into your vagina. You will feel pain. You will scream from pain and will run into my arms." That's why I say that men do this when they are very insecure. They want to keep the woman all to themselves and they don't even want them to see another person. Then you tie it like this and this way. Then you say, "I sew your vagina so that you will be with me, so that you will like me, so that you will love and that you will never be able to be with another person, but me." Then you tie it over here. You can also bury this one in a pot the same way as I told you before. If not, you can bury it like this in your backyard: facedown. Never face up because if it is face up you should expect something to happen to you. If it is face down, it is like saying, "I don't want it."

CH: "I don't want it."

S6: Then they can't do it with another person. Then, the same damage as was done to the male organ and the piece of pork can be used against a woman. You can also use the same medicine that I told you that cured the other work to cure this. I think that this can be used to for both works. In a few words, it is unisex. The same herbs that I told said can be used for this.

CH: Ok.

S6: Well. Let's see. I gave you an explanation for this, but I don't remember if it was on that or this one.

CH: Yes. I think that it wasn't on this tape.

S6: But it didn't come out too well?

CH: Yes. I don't think that it came out that well.

S6: Do you think that today's will come out well?

CH: I think that this time it will. That's why I'm back here.

S6: Wonderful.

CH: Wonderful.

S6: Well, let's see about marriage. I'm going to need to white dolls for the marriage work. I'm going to go bring them.
CH: Ok. Ok. I'm going to pause this for a while. Ok. I'm ready for you.

S6: Ok. When you are a bachelor and can't find someone to love you or can't find someone, a boyfriend will show up and only say a few words, but then they don't say anything. You are left single. You are left as the saying goes, "To dress as a nun." Then, well you say, "I'm going to go find someone to do magic to do something for love and to get a boyfriend or a husband. You buy two white dolls that are made out of [???] (*esterino parafina*).

CH: Ok.

S6: You buy them in a botanica. That is where you can go get that. This is one is the man. You can see that he has all of the masculine body parts and the woman has her feminine parts. You unite these two dolls. You take them like this and you lay them down. You take this tube of honey. You write with a virgin pen-it has to be a virgin pen-or with a pen with red ink, or a sharpened virgin pencil that hasn't been used by other people.

CH: Ok.

S6: You take the pencil and you write. For example, I will pretend this is my pencil in my hand. You write, "St. Simon, I ask you with all my heart to help bring a person's love to me. You know who will be the love of my life or who will love me." You write this on both the man and the woman. You write what I said about St. Simon. Then you write a petition to St. Simon around here. "St. Simon, I thank you because I know I am asking you for a miracle and I am thanking you beforehand because I know that you will not fail me." After you make the petition and you wrote what you wanted, then you uncover the bottle of honey. You take the two dolls and cover them completely with honey. Then say, "Sacred honey, pure honey, honey that comes from bees, that sweetens everything that is sour, everything that is salty, I want you to make my life sweeter. I want you to make me the sweetest and kindest woman. May the man that arrives to my life be a man that loves me for who I am and not for what I have." You pour all of the honey (*miel*) like this. Then you take [???] powder (*polvo de chupa rosa*). I don't have it here. It's outside.

CH: Ok.

S6: I can only tell you how it's like so it can be taped. You add all of the powder of [???] (*chupa rosa*) around the two dolls. Then you take a tube of honey that is called 'Honey of love' (*miel de amor*).

CH: 'Honey of love' (*miel de amor*).

S6: That 'Honey of love' is used a lot by people who are married. Then you place the two dolls standing up and start chewing cinnamon leaves. These leaves are used by people in India for love problems. Then you spit the cinnamon out and spread it on the two dolls. You leave the dolls far apart from each other. At last, you light these candles and say a prayer to San Simon. You close your eyes and say, "Hermano Simon, Hermano Simon, the fountain of inexhaustible love, you know the sufferings of human beings. I come to

your side with all my faith knowing your are my holy protection. On October 28, day of Saint Jude Tadeus, you made your first apparition in Guatemala. I am working without stop, and you have me here lying on your feet and being sorry for every evil deed of the world, and seeking the forgiveness of my sins. I know that as you granted wishes to your friend Felipe, that indigenous man that went up to the hill, I ask you that you grant to me what I am now asking for. I ask you my dear Hermano Simon to help me find the love of my life and that you bring a good man into my life. Amen". Then you light them up and you slowly start bringing the two dolls together every fifteen minutes until they are really close together. After that you will have love coming from everywhere because this work is not done so that a specific person will fall in love with you. You will do it so that true love will come to you.

CH: Can you now explain me the uses of lemon?

S6: You take a green lemon and you cut it in a cross. Then you take a glass and fill up with purified water. Then you put this lemon and put it inside. Then you take a red candle, a green one, a white one and a blue one. These four candles will be positioned as the four poles. In one candle you write the Our Father, in the other a Holy Mary, in the other one an Ave Maria, and in the other one your own wish. You can the prayers with a needle since it's so hard to write on a candle. Then you pray an Our Father and a Holy Mary to out Lord so that he can open your path and you say, "Oh Lord, please open up my paths of the south, north, east and west so that people can come to me. I need the daily bread; don't leave me alone day or night, because you are the only God and the God of all creators that doesn't abandon any of his children whether they are good or evil. For you, we are all sons of God and you bring the light to everyone. I ask you a million times for forgiveness for all the evil I have done. But in this moment I need you and my life is in your hands. I promise I will give it to you because I was born to die. So as long as I am alive, please help me have my daily bread. Amen". I have done this work for myself and it has helped me. Have I told you what happened to me?

CH: No.

S6: It was already the last day of the month and I didn't have the money for the rent of this business. So I did this work on the 30th of the month and with the Grace of God I now have the money for the rent. So it is really good and it gives good results, especially since I do it with a lot of faith and devotion. Any person that does this ritual with faith will obtain good results. It can be done by someone that's not doing well on his business, or a person that can't find a job.

CH: Does it matter what color the candle that you light is?

S6: The candle has to be white. The green one is for the Our Father, the blue one for the Ave Maria, and the red one for the Holy Mary.

CH: What is the "Candela de la Marca Dominadora" for?

S6: That one is used to dominate men. You take three cents and you insert a cent here, and the two other ones over here. You put a piece of paper, a little bit of honey of love, and a bit of oil of the ?(marca dominadora). Woman that feel their husbands always want

to boss them around do this work. So you light the candle and write on this piece of paper 21 or nine times the name of the person. Then you tie it up with this red ribbon. You can actually light three candles for better results. Your man after that will act sweeter and less aggressive.

CH: Do you by any chance know the story of the "Dominadora".

S6: The story is part of the prayer. It reads like this, "Blessed Martha, Virgin, the Dominator, you were able to dominate the dragon. I want you to send the saints of God and heaven so that they can clean my house….. etc. The prayer is here, but I don't know it really well because I work more with San Simon. But I do know that she used her lantern and its oil to fight the fire in a temple where his son was caught in. The power of her lantern can be used to fight the forces of evil.

CH: Can you tell me something about this decoration hanging up here with rice?

S6: You should put rose petals on top of this decoration. On the lower part of it you can see paper money from around the world. You add cinnamon, ?(estrella de aniz), ?(pimienta gorda), and clovers. Then you sprinkle the rice on top and you place the elephant here, always remembering to place it with its tail sticking out to attract money. The serpent up here helps as a personal defense. The serpent is like a cobra that defends me against other curanderos that may want to do witchcraft against me. This serpent is so poisonous that it can defend me against anyone that may want to disrupt my economic stability. The rice symbolizes abundance, so that I will never be in need of food in my home. Cinnamon symbolizes the love I will have in my home and with my clients. The rose petals are also for love and the paper money is to attract more money. This is my own personal amulet.